

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA  
INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

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	)	
	)	
In re: BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE, INC.,	)	
ATX, ATX II, and WILDERNESS TIRES	)	Master File No. IP OO-9373-C-B/S
PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION	)	MDL No. 1373
	)	(centralized before Hon. Sarah Evans
	)	Barker, Judge)
THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL	)	
ACTIONS	)	
	)	
	)	

**ORDER DIRECTING THAT FILINGS BE MAINTAINED UNDER SEAL**

On March 19, 2001, defendants Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc. (“Firestone”) and Ford Motor Company filed their brief in opposition to the plaintiffs’ motion for preliminary injunction. In connection with that filing, the defendants submitted two items under seal that Firestone had designated confidential: the declaration of Gary L. Liberson and its accompanying affidavits and Exhibit B to the declaration of Virginia Gregory-Kocaj.<sup>1</sup>

The Court provisionally accepted these filings under seal, according to the procedures set out in its Confidentiality Order of March 7, 2001 (as supplemented by the *Nunc Pro Tunc* Order of March 20, 2001). As further provided by the Confidentiality Order, Firestone filed on March 26, 2001, its Motion to Maintain Confidentiality of

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<sup>1</sup>These items are on file at docket number 765. The defendants later submitted color copies of certain of the exhibits and corrected technical errors. That filing is at docket number 786.

Documents Filed Under Seal.

The Court's Confidentiality Order expressly provides a mechanism by which any party, including the Intervenor media organizations, may object to the maintenance of a filing under seal. None has done so. Moreover, Firestone has set forth in detail the type of information contained in these filings and the specific reasons why disclosure could result in competitive harm. The Court finds that these reasons constitute good cause for the continued maintenance of these filings under seal. See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(c)(7); Citizens First National Bank of Princeton v. Cincinnati Insurance, 178 F.3d 943 (7<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999).

For these reasons, the Clerk of the Court is ORDERED to maintain the filings at docket numbers 765 and 786 under seal, unless otherwise ordered.

It is so ORDERED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of April, 2001.

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SARAH EVANS BARKER, JUDGE  
United States District Court  
Southern District of Indiana

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